Cases pending with Department of Legal Affairs

7053. DR. SHRIMATI RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in the Department of Legal Affairs as on the 1st April, 1994 where other Ministries have sought advice on matters including interpretation of the Constitution and the Law;

(b) what are the reasons for the cases remaining pending; and

(c) what is being planned for speedy disposal of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) 121 cases were pending in the Department of Legal Affairs as on 1 April, 1994.

(b) and (c) Of the total number of 1593 cases handled in the Department in March, 1994 1472 were disposed off in that very month. Out of the remaining 121 cases, 107 have since been disposed off. The remaining cases are still under examination and will be disposed off shortly.

Benefit f Legal aid o poor

7054. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of poor people who have benefited during the last three years from the scheme of legal aid to poor;

(b) the total amount of money expended by Government on providing legal aid to the poor; and

(c) whether any improvement is being made in these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As per information available with CILAS over, 20,66,000 poor people have benefited from the scheme of Legal Aid to the poor during the financial years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 in the country.

(b) The total amount of money expended by the Government on providing legal aid to poor is Rs. 35,19,821/- Rs 32,57;636/- and Rs. 29;00 000 during the financial years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 respectively.

(c) The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 which is yet to come into force, enhances the income ceiling from Rs. 6,000/- to Rs. 9,000/- per annum for legal aid upto High Court and from Rs. 9,600/- to Rs. 12,000/- for Supreme Court ases.

Members of company aw Board

7055. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present members of the Company Law Board are shareholders in any joint stock or private company;

(b) if so, what are the names of the companies in which they hold shares;

(c) whether these members had previously declared in advance about their interest in companies before assuming of such office and if so, on what dates; and

(d) what is the mechanism of monitoring such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A list showing names of companies in which members of the Company Law Board hold shares is attached herewith as a statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) As per the recruitment rules of members of the Com-